

# Champion International/Ballard Mill



## Site Cleanup Complete - Removal from Hazardous Sites List Proposed

**Public Comment Accepted:**  
October 26 - November 27, 1995

*This fact sheet has been prepared by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to update you on the environmental cleanup performed at the Champion International/Ballard Mill site. Ecology is preparing to remove this site from the Hazardous Sites List because all required cleanup actions for the upland portion of the site have been completed.*

Washington Ranking Method. Sites are ranked relative to each other on a scale of one to five based on potential threats to human health and the environment. A score of one represents the highest level of concern relative to other sites, a score of five represents the lowest. The Champion International Ballard Mill Site was a number one ranked site based on Ecology's assessment of site conditions prior to cleanup.

### Cleanup Actions Complete

Champion International, Salmon Bay Terminals, and Coastal Transportation have completed the cleanup of contamination in the upland areas at the old Ballard Plywood Mill site. The site is located east of the Ballard Bridge on the Lake Washington Ship Canal, at 4025 13th Avenue West.

Ecology is now proposing to remove this portion of the site from the Agency's Hazardous Sites List. The off-shore sediment portion of the site will remain on the List. Cleanup of the off-shore areas will be evaluated as part of an area-wide survey of sediments in Salmon Bay and the Lake Washington Ship Canal.

### What is the Hazardous Sites List?

The Hazardous Sites List is a listing of the contaminated sites in the state which have been assessed and ranked using the

### We Want Your Input!

Before this site is removed from the List, you are invited to review documents related to the cleanup and provide your comments on Ecology's decision to delist the site.

Site related documents are available at the locations listed in the box on the right. Written comments will be accepted until November 27, 1995. See the box on the right for where to send comments.

### Comment Period:

October 26 - November 27, 1995

### Cleanup Work Performed at the Site

The following is a brief description of the areas of concern and the cleanup actions performed at the site.

## October 1995

**Direct written comments to Site Manager:**

Brian Sato  
Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Ave. S.E.  
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452  
(206) 649-7265  
E-mail: bsat451@ecy.wa.gov

### Review Documents at:

The following branches of the Seattle Public Library:

**Ballard**  
5711 24th Ave. N.W.  
Seattle, WA

**Queen Anne**  
400 W. Garfield St.  
Seattle, WA

The Department of Ecology's  
Northwest Regional Office  
3190 160th Ave. S.E.  
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452  
Attn: Sally Perkins  
(206) 649-7190

### Need more information?

Call Marianne Deppman,  
Ecology's Public Involvement  
Specialist at (206) 649-7254,  
(206) 649-4259 TDD, or e-mail  
her at mdep451@ecy.wa.gov

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- **Solvent Tank Area:** Two underground tanks which were used to store solvents were pumped and removed from the site. Approximately 2,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater were pumped from the excavation area and the contaminated soils were excavated and removed from the site. Follow-up sampling in this area indicates no further action is required.
- **Boiler Ash Area:** Approximately 3,200 cubic yards of boiler ash fill exists at the site. This material is contaminated with heavy metals. The ash has been covered with clean sand, crushed rock and capped with a layer of asphalt. This capping system is designed to contain the boiler ash fill, prevent the contaminants from migrating and prevent human exposure from the surface.
- **Methane:** Methane, resulting from the accumulation and decomposition of wood debris, has been detected below the surface at the site. Because methane is primarily a concern in confined spaces, land use restrictions have been put in place at the site in-lieu of cleanup actions. These restrictions will ensure that any future development at the site does not allow methane to accumulate.
- **Off-Shore Sediments:** Elevated levels of hazardous substances were found in waste glue piles which were in contact with the water and off-shore sediments near the site. These elevated levels are not considered harmful to human health, however, they may pose a risk to the aquatic environment.

No sediment cleanup was conducted due to uncertainties regarding other nearby sources of contamination. Ecology is conducting an area-wide evaluation of the Ship Canal and Salmon Bay sediments. Further action may be necessary when these studies are complete.

The sediments portion of this site will not be removed from the Hazardous Sites List at this time.

In addition to the above remedial actions, long term monitoring will be conducted at the site and additional land use restrictions have been placed on the property.

*Monitoring will include:*

- Protecting the asphalt cap and performing annual inspection of the cap surface, catch basins, downspout connections, and discharge pipe to evaluate if maintenance is required

*Land use restrictions include:*

- Prohibiting use of site groundwater for drinking
- Limiting access to the site by posting "No Trespassing" signs
- Prohibiting recreational activities at the site
- Ensuring future development at the site will not create conditions of methane accumulation
- Ensuring no disturbance of off-shore sediments

## Site Background

Champion International operated the Ballard Plywood Mill on the Ship Canal from 1910 to 1985. The waste generated during these 75 years of plywood manufacturing included wood debris, resin sludge, boiler ash and leftover paints, solvents, stains, and oils.

After preliminary investigations at the site, a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) was deemed necessary and was completed in 1991 as required by the Model Toxics Control Act (Washington's hazardous waste cleanup law). The information gathered during the RI/FS was used to develop the Cleanup Action Plan and Engineering Design Document. These documents, outlining the final cleanup work

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needed at the site, as well as a Consent Decree, were compiled in late 1992. Following a public comment period, cleanup work at the site began.

The site is currently used for marine terminal, warehousing and office activities. The site uses are consistent with the cleanup.

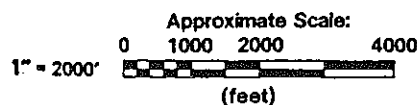
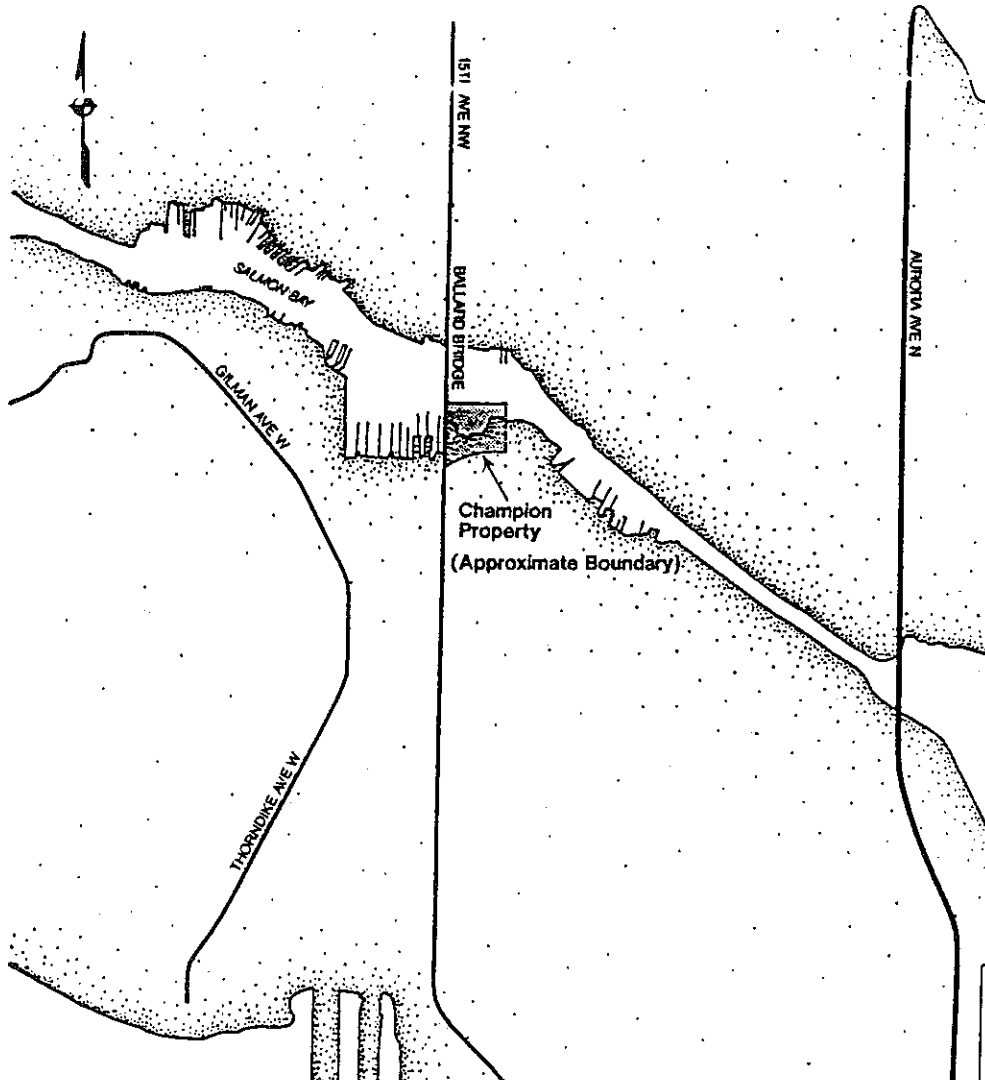
## What Happens Next?

If no significant comments are received during the comment period, the upland portion of the

site will be removed from the Hazardous Sites List. Except for the on-going monitoring of the site, the cleanup of this portion of the site will be considered complete.

## Questions?

If you need more information, please call Ecology's Public Involvement Specialist, Marianne Deppman at (206) 649-7254 or (206) 649-4259 (TDD). Or, you may call Ecology's Project Manager, Brian Sato at (206) 649-7265.



Kennedy/Jenks/Chilton  
CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL CORP.  
SEATTLE, WA

VICINITY MAP

K/J/C

896016.00/POSK001  
SEPT 1990

FIGURE 2-1